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ESTONIA SIGNS INDIVIDUAL PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE PROGRAM. Estonian Foreign Minister Juri Luik on 1 March signed his country's individual cooperation program for NATO's Partnership for Peace, AFP reported. After meeting with the NATO Council in Brussels, Luik told reporters that the signing was a step toward full NATO membership but warned: "If NATO is enlarged, it should be done by thinking about the security of all eastern partners in Europe. We are facing a security grey zone, a dangerous zone of instability." Of the 25 countries that signed up for PFP, Estonia was the twelfth to sign an individual program. -- Saulius Girnius, OMRI, Inc.

LITHUANIAN-ISRAELI RELATIONS. President Algirdas Brazauskas, in his address to the Israeli Knesset (parliament) on 1 March, apologized again to the Jewish nation for participation of Lithuanians in World War II crimes against it, Western agencies reported. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Brazauskas's visit was "the first sign promising a spring in our relations." Brazauskas also visited Bethlehem and met with Israeli businessmen in Tel Aviv. Lithuanian Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys signed an agreement on visa-free entry for holders of diplomatic passports, and Health Minister Antanas Vinkus concluded an accord on cooperation in health care. -- Saulius Girnius, OMRI, Inc.